

**We claim:**

1           1. A front closure for a brassiere comprising:  
2           a female closure half having a first semielliptical  
3 plate with a planar obverse surface delimited by a straight edge  
4 and a curved edge, an annular formation on a reverse side of said  
5 semielliptical plate overhanging said straight edge, and an  
6 elongated opening formed in said annular formation along said  
7 straight edge whereby a ledge is formed by said plate in said  
8 annular formation; and  
9           a male closure half having a second semielliptical  
10 plate with a planar obverse surface delimited by a straight edge  
11 and a curved edge, and a lug on a reverse side of said second  
12 semielliptical plate projecting over said <sup>straight</sup> edge engageable in said  
13 opening with said closure halves positioned transverse to one  
14 another, and engaging with a snap fit in said annular formation  
15 while underlying said ledge upon rotation of said closure halves  
16 into a planar position in which said planar surfaces are  
17 coplanar, said straight edges lying in contact with one another  
18 in said planar position, said semielliptical plates being  
19 attachable to juxtaposed edges of a brassiere.

1           2. The front closure defined in claim 1 wherein said  
2 first plate outwardly of said annular formation and said second

3 plate outwardly of said lug are thin sewing flanges pierceable by  
4 a sewing needle stitching said closure halves to the respective  
5 edges of said brassiere.

1 3. The front closure defined in claim 2 wherein said  
2 annular formation is generally elliptical and surrounds a  
3 generally rectangular recess with rounded corners.

1 4. The front closure defined in claim 3 wherein each  
2 of said plates has curved ends connecting the respective straight  
3 edge with the respective curved edge.

1 5. The front closure defined in claim 4 which is  
2 composed of polyamide.

1 6. The front closure defined in claim 5 wherein said  
2 front closure is composed of nylon 6.

1 7. A brassiere having a pair of cups with respective  
2 flaps adapted to abut at edges of said flaps and a front closure  
3 having a female closure half stitched to a back of one of said

4 flaps and a male closure half stitched to the other of said  
5 flaps, said female closure half having a first semielliptical  
6 plate with a planar obverse surface delimited by a straight edge  
7 and a curved edge, an annular formation on a reverse side of said  
8 semielliptical plate overhanging said straight edge, and an  
9 elongated opening formed in said annular formation along said  
10 straight edge whereby a ledge is formed by said plate in said  
11 annular formation; and

12 said male closure half having a second semielliptical  
13 plate with a planar obverse surface delimited by a straight edge  
14 and a curved edge, and a lug on a reverse side of said second  
a 15 semielliptical plate projecting over said <sup>straight</sup> edge engageable in said  
16 opening with said closure halves positioned transverse to one  
17 another, and engaging with a snap fit in said annular formation  
18 while underlying said ledge upon rotation of said closure halves  
19 into a planar position in which said planar surfaces are  
20 coplanar, said straight edges lying in contact with one another  
21 in said planar position whereby said flaps are connected in said  
22 planar position of said male and female closure halves so that  
23 the edges of said flaps adjoin and said front closure is  
24 invisible from the front of the brassiere.

1 8. The brassiere defined in claim 7 wherein said  
2 plates form sewing flanges outwardly of said annular formation

3 and said lug and are pierceable by a sewing needle stitching said  
4 closure halves to the respective flaps of the brassiere.

1 9. The brassiere defined in claim 8 wherein said  
2 sewing flanges are attached to said flaps by zigzag stitching.

1 10. The brassiere defined in claim 9 wherein said  
2 annular formation is generally elliptical and surrounds a  
3 generally rectangular recess with rounded corners.

1 11. The brassiere defined in claim 8 wherein said  
2 sewing flanges are attached to the flaps by single-needle  
3 stitching.